

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Rm. 152 Federal Building 100 Centennial Mall North Lincoln, Neb. 68508 (402) 437-5551 (Phone) (402) 437-5093 (TDY) (402) 437-5408 (Fax)

Contact: Mary Gambill, Community Outreach Specialist USDA Rural Development (402) 387-2242 Ext. 112

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT REPRESENTATIVE JOINS AINSWORTH SERVICE CENTER

Ainsworth, Nebraska, July 22-The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development became part of the Ainsworth USDA Service Center this month. Mary Gambill, Community Outreach Specialist for USDA Rural Development will provide technical assistance in the areas of business and community facility development.

The USDA Service Center located at 731 E. 4th Street in Ainsworth houses the Farm Service Agency (FSA), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) with Rural Development joining the team.

"I am pleased to be part of the USDA team here in Ainsworth," stated Gambill. "I encourage the public to contact me with their business and community needs."

Community Outreach Specialist Gambill will serve a 13 county area of Nebraska. Those counties include: Brown, Cherry, Rock, Keya Paha, Boyd, Holt, Grant, Hooker, Thomas, Blaine, Loup, Garfield, and Wheeler.

Gambill will provide assistance in areas of business creation and expansion, through the following programs: Business and Industry Guaranteed and Direct Loan, Intermediary Relending Program, Rural Business Enterprise Grant, Rural Business Opportunity Grant, Rural Economic Development Loan & Grant and Coop Services. Additionally, assistance will be provided for rural communities to remain alive and viable through the Community Facility Direct and Guaranteed Loan programs and Grant program. These programs provide for streets, community buildings, libraries, senior citizen centers, day care centers, hospitals, clinics, assisted living facilities and more. With the passage of the 2002 Farm Bill additional programs such as the Value Added Development Grant have been made available for which Gambill will provide technical assistance. This program encourages independent producers of agricultural commodities to process their raw products into marketable value-added goods, thereby increasing farm income.

Mary Gambill can be reached at: USDA Rural Development, 731 E. 4th Street Ainsworth, Neb. 69210, or phone (402) 387-2242 ext. 112, email mary.gambill@ne.usda.gov. Visit www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne/.

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